UPRCE A-NE / MAY 2/27/69

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re United States Patent Application of: Docket No.: 4115-181 Applicant: BRYAN, Philip N. Conf. No.: 2283 **Application No.:** 10/567,073 Art Unit: 1656 Date Filed: **Examiner: February 3, 2006** William W. Moore Title: **ENGINEERED PROTEASES Customer No.:** FOR AFFINITY PURIFICATION AND

CERTIFICATE OF EFS FILING

PROCESSING OF FUSION

PROTEINS

I hereby certify that this document is being filed via EFS in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 27, 2009. /kelly k. reynolds/

RESPONSE TO DECEMBER 31, 2008 FINAL OFFICE ACTION IN U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/567,073

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the December 31, 2008 Final Office Action in the above-identified application.

The time for responding to the December 31, 2008 Office Action without extension was set at three months, or March 31, 2009. This Response is therefore timely.

Please amend the claims of the above-identified patent application as set out in Section I (Amendments to the Claims) hereof.